

LOVE

I.C.D.
11

NOVEMBER

No.14

Confessions



10c

"For awhile my head
and heart were in the
clouds...but I soon
realized that I wanted
more than a Greek god..."

See-

**PERFECT
MALE**





WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM



BUD, COULD I GET A WRIST WATCH THE SAME EASY WAY YOU GOT THAT AIR RIFLE

YOU SURE CAN SIS, ALSO DOLLS BICYCLES AND MANY OTHER THINGS, JUST MAIL COUPON TO START, LIKE I DID



AND SIS MAILS IN THE COUPON AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE

LOOK, BUD - WILSON SENT WHITE CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE AND EVERYTHING. I DIDN'T HAVE TO SEND A PENNY. NOW I'LL GET MY WRISTWATCH



YOU'LL SELL THEM FAST!

THANKS, SIS, THIS IS A WONDERFUL ART PICTURE THAT YOU'RE GIVING ME WITH THIS FINE SALVE



YES! GIVING THE PICTURES MADE IT FUN TO SELL ALL I NEED FOR MY WATCH

IT SURE IS - I'M GOING TO GET A BIKE NEXT



LOOK AT MY NEW WATCH ISN'T IT LOVELY

VALUABLE • PREMIUMS GIVEN BOYS • GIRLS • MEN • LADIES

Be First!
ACT NOW!



GENUINE .22 CAL. RIFLES, 1000 Shot Daisy Air Rifles (with tube of shot), Camera, Footballs, Telescopes, complete Fishing Kits, Movie Machines (sent postage paid). Simply Give beautiful pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE used for chaps and mild burns and easily sold to friends, neighbors, relatives at 25c a box (with picture) and remit amount asked under Premium shown in catalog sent with your order postage paid by us to start. Mail coupon below.



ACT NOW!

BE FIRST

DOLLS, FULLY DRESSED, Over 15' in height, Wrist Watches, Pocket Watches, Blankets, Alarm Clocks, Aluminum Ware, Bibles, Pen & Pencil sets (sent postage paid). Other Premiums or Cash Commissions. Big catalog lists many other personal and household premiums. So don't delay getting what you want. MAIL COUPON NOW!

BICYCLES (boys - girls), Conzater Wagons (sent express charges collect). Flashlights, School Boxes (sent postage paid). Easy fun to get 'em. NO MONEY NOW. We send art pictures, salve, catalog on trust to start. Write today!

WILSON CHEMICAL COMPANY
DEPT. RG 105 TYRONA, PA.



WE ARE RELIABLE



DUR 56th YEAR

MAIL THIS COUPON
SEND NO MONEY NOW
WE TRUST YOU

BOYS! GIRLS!
PREMIUMS
OR
CASH COMMISSIONS
GIVEN
MAIL
THIS
COUPON
TODAY

Wilson Chemical Co., Dept. RG 105 Tyrona, Pa. Date _____
 Gentlemen - Please send me on trial 3 colorful art pictures with 12 boxes of White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE to mail at 25c a box (with picture). I will remit amount within 30 days, select a Premium or keep Cash Commissions as fully explained under Premium wanted in catalog sent with my order postage paid to start.

Name _____ Age _____
 St. or R. R. _____ Box _____
 Town _____ Zone _____ State _____
 PRINT NAME HERE _____
 MAKE MARK _____

FASTE COUPON ON POSTAL CARD OR MAIL IN ENVELOPE TODAY!

Perfect Male

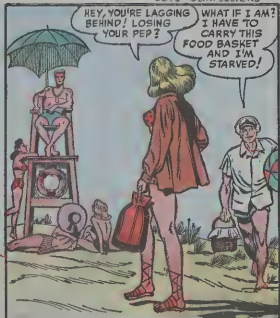
EVERY GIRL DREAMS OF FINDING WHAT I DID...A MAGNIFICENT MAN WHO LOOKS LIKE A GREEK GOD, IS FABULOUSLY WEALTHY, AND CHOOSES HER AS HIS QUEEN TO REIGN IN SPLENDOR! FOR A WHILE MY HEAD AND HEART WERE IN THE CLOUDS! BUT WHEN I CAME DOWN TO EARTH, I KNEW THAT I WANTED SOMETHING MORE THAN PERFECTION!

THERE'S JOAN CURTIS WITH THAT ABSOLUTELY PERFECT BRAO HARRISON!

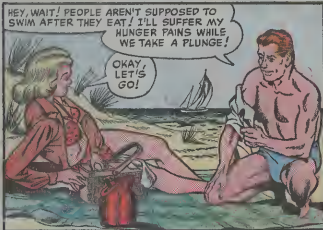


LOVE CONFESSIONS

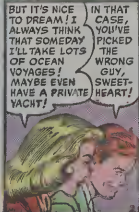
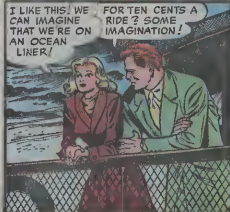
For
SEVERAL
WEEKS,
I HAD
DATED
DOUG
RAMSEY!
WE DID
FOOLISH
THINGS
LIKE
HAVING
PICNICS
ON THE
BEACH!



DOUG
WAS A
WRITER WHO
HAD VERY
LITTLE
MONEY
BUT A LOT
OF PROMISE!
ABOVE
ALL HE HAD
A ZEST
FOR LIVING
AND A
CAPACITY
FOR FUN!



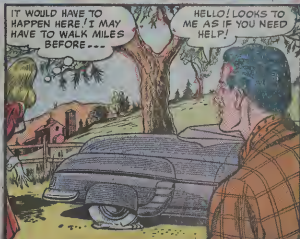
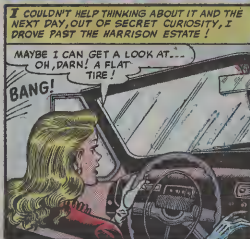
OUR
VILLAGE OF
FREMONT
WAS ON
THE
OCEAN AND
SOMETIMES
WE'D
SPEND THE
ENTIRE
EVENING,
RIDING
THE
FERRY
BOAT
ACROSS
THE BAY
AND
BACK!



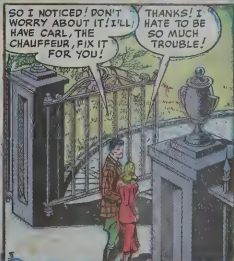
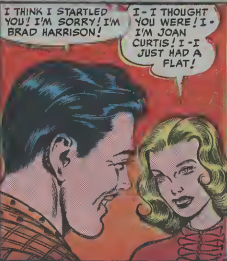
LOVE CONFESSIONS



I ALWAYS HAD A GOOD TIME WITH DOUG! BUT EVERYTHING CHANGED WHEN BRAD HARRISON ENTERED THE PICTURE! THE FIRST I HEARD OF HIM WAS AT A SORORITY MEETING ONE NIGHT!



I TURNED AND STOOD STARING WITH MY HEART RACING AND MY TONGUE TIED! NEVER BEFORE HAD I SEEN SUCH A HANDSOME MAN! I KNEW WHO IT MUST BE! IT HAD TO BE...



LOVE CONFESSIONS

NO TROUBLE, COME
AND MEET AUNT
MAY! YOU'RE JUST
IN TIME FOR TEA!

TH-THAT
WOULD BE
NICE! I
HOPE SHE
WON'T
MIND!



That's
HOW I
MET MY
PERFECT
MALE! I
DROPPED
DOUG FOR
BRAD
AND FELT
SMUG
THAT MY
PRESENCE
WAS
DESIRED
AT THE
HARRISON
MANSION!
AUNT MAY,
A DELICATE
OLD LADY
WHO SEEMED
LIKE ONE OF
THE RARE ART
TREASURES,
LIKED ME!
SDDN I WAS
A FREQUENT
VISITOR!

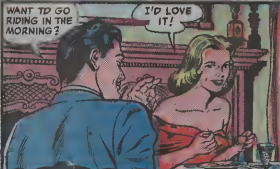
I'M SO GLAD THAT YOU
CAME HERE OFTEN
DEAR! WE NEED YOUNG
PEOPLE, DON'T WE,
BRAD?

WELL, YES!
WHEN THEY'RE
LIKE JOAN!



WANT TO GO
RIDING IN THE
MORNING?

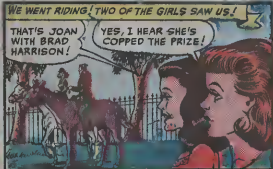
I'D LOVE
IT!



WE WENT RIDING! TWO OF THE GIRLS SAW US!

THAT'S JOAN
WITH BRAD
HARRISON!

YES, I HEAR SHE'S
COPPED THE PRIZE!



WE WENT TO THE PROPER PLACES
AND ALWAYS IN PROPER STYLE.

THIS SHOULD
BE AN EXCELLENT
CONCERT! DON'T
YOU THINK SO?

I DON'T KNOW
A THING ABOUT
THEM BUT I'LL
TRY TO
EARN

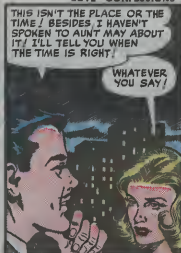


I
WAS
SWEEP
OFF MY
FEET IN
A WHIRL
OF
ELEGANCE
AND
GLORY!

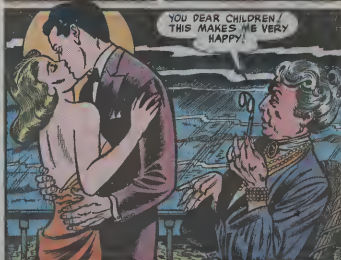
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
TO THINK THAT A MAN
LIKE BRAD, WITH EVERY-
THING, WOULD WANT TO
BE WITH ME!



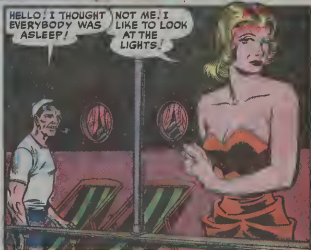
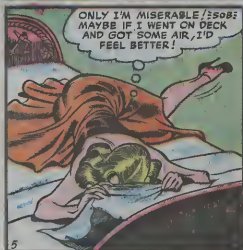
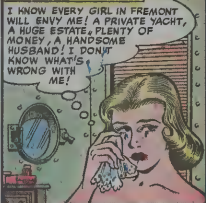
LOVE CONFESSIONS



THE TIME WAS RIGHT ON A MAGICAL MOONLIT NIGHT! WE WERE ON BRAD'S NEW YACHT AND AUNT MAY WAS THERE TO CHAPERONE!



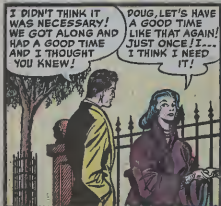
SHE WAS HAPPY AND I SHOULD HAVE BEEN! BUT BEING PROPOSED TO BEFORE AN OLD MAID AUNT WAS NOT MY IDEA OF ROMANCE



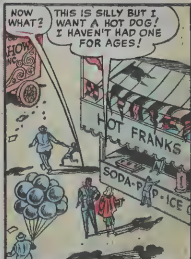
LOVE CONFESSIONS



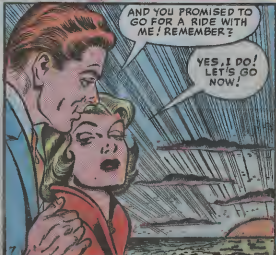
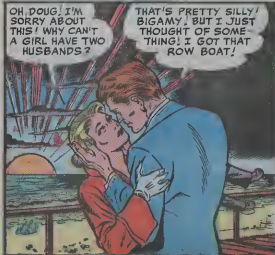
My ENGAGEMENT TO BRAD WAS ANNOUNCED IN THE BEST OF TASTE! THERE WAS A BIG PARTY AND ALL OF THE IMPORTANT PEOPLE WERE THERE! EVERYONE WISHED ME WELL, INCLUDING DOUG WHOM I MET THE NEXT DAY!



LOVE CONFESSIONS



He TOOK ME TO A HOT DOG STAND! I STOOD THERE MUNCHING IT FOR A MINUTE THEN SUDDENLY I COULDN'T SWALLOW IT! IT STUCK IN MY THROAT, AND ALL THE EFFORT I MADE WAS FUTILE!

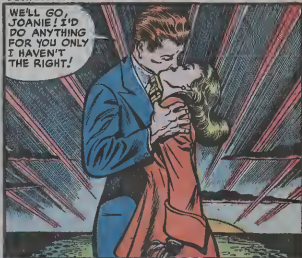
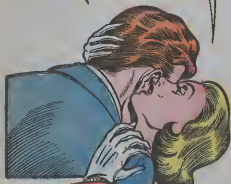


LOVE CONFESSIONS

NOT NOW,
DARLING! IT'S
GETTING DARK!

WHO
CARES?

WE'LL GO,
JOANIE! I'D
DO ANYTHING
FOR YOU ONLY
I HAVEN'T
THE RIGHT!



That
KISS
WAS
LIKE A
TRANSFUSION
THAT GAVE
ME NEW
LIFE!
SUDDENLY,
I KNEW
WHOM I
LOVED!
NOT BRAD
WITH HIS
HANDSOME-
NESS, HIS
IMPECCABLE
MANNERS
OR HIS
MILLION!

I LOVE DOUG! I
KNOW IT NOW!
BUT WHAT CAN I
DO SINCE I'M
ENGAGED TO
BRAD?

THIS IS FUN!
REMEMBER THE
PICNICS WE
HAD ON THE
BEACH?

I REMEMBER LOTS OF THINGS, BABY, THAT
I'D RATHER FORGET! I SHOULDN'T EVEN BE
OUT-HERE WITH
YOU!



THE WATER'S
GETTING
ROUGH! WE'D
BETTER GO
IN!

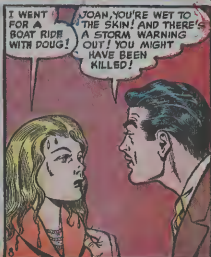
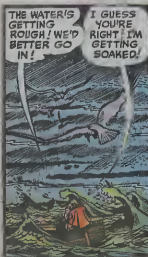
I GUESS
YOU'RE
RIGHT! I'M
GETTING
SOAKED!

I'LL HANG ON
HERE, DOUG
WHILE YOU
TIE UP!

JOAN! WHAT'S THE
MEANING OF THIS?
I'VE BEEN LOOKING
ALL OVER FOR YOU!
I JUST CAME OUT TO
SEE IF MY YACHT WAS
SECURE...

I WENT
FOR A
BOAT RIDE
WITH DOUG!

JOAN, YOU'RE WET TO
THE SKIN! AND THERE'S
A STORM WARNING
OUT! YOU MIGHT
HAVE BEEN
KILLED!



LOVE CONFESSIONS

BESIDES, YOU SHOULD HAVE ASKED ME ABOUT THIS!

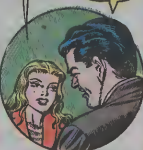
BRAD, IF I HAVE TO ASK YOU EVERY MOVE I MAKE, I COULDN'T TAKE IT! I'D BE UNHAPPY AND IT WOULDN'T PLEASE YOU!

I GUESS WE'D BETTER CALL OFF OUR ENGAGEMENT!

BUT THAT'S RIDICULOUS! I CAN OFFER YOU EVERYTHING!

NOT QUITE, BRAD! YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH TOLERANCE! AND YOU'RE NOT A VERY GOOD SPORT!

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU CAN SAY THINGS LIKE THAT! GOING OUT WITH THIS MAN WAS CERTAINLY AN AFFRONT TO MY DIGNITY!



As BRAD WALKED AWAY, I KNEW I WAS LOSING LOTS IN LIFE!

THE HARRISON NAME, THE SOCIAL POSITION, THE WEALTH AND ALL IT COULD BUY! THE ENVY OF OTHER GIRLS! THE PERFECT MALE!

I WON'T STAND FOR IT! WE'RE THROUGH!

IT'S BETTER THIS WAY, BRAD! I COULD NEVER LIVE UP TO YOUR IDEAS OF PERFECTION!



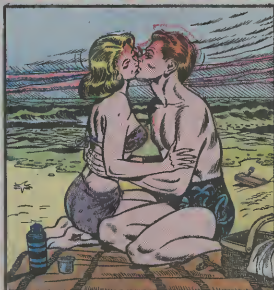
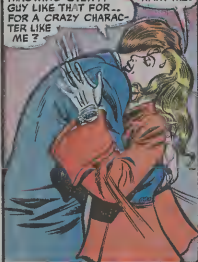
DARLING! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE? YOU'VE TOSSED OVER...

PLENTY! BUT I DON'T WANT IT, DOUG! I COULDN'T LIVE UP TO IT! I'D SLIP ALONG THE LINE BECAUSE I LIKE TO HAVE A GOOD TIME AND SO DO YOU!



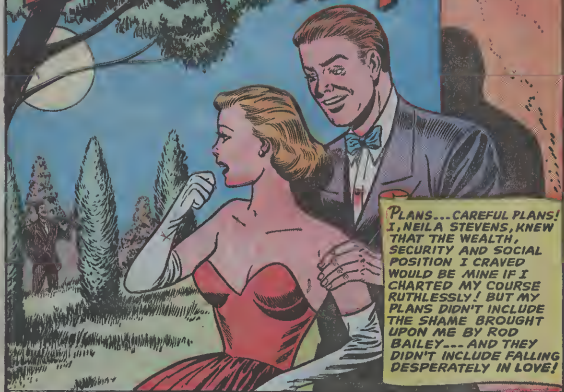
DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE THROWING OVER A GUY LIKE THAT FOR... FOR A CRAZY CHARACTER LIKE ME?

YES! IF YOU WANT ME!



I GUESS A LOT OF PEOPLE THINK I'M SLIGHTLY OUT OF MY MIND TO GIVE UP THE PERFECT MAN I COULD HAVE MARRIED! BUT I'D RATHER HAVE A NORMAL HUMAN BEING AND A LITTLE FUN AND ROMANCE IN MY LIFE! AND, FOR ME, DOUG IS JUST PERFECT!

Plans for Myself



PLANS... CAREFUL PLANS! I, NEILA STEVENS, KNEW THAT THE WEALTH, SECURITY AND SOCIAL POSITION I CRAVED WOULD BE MINE IF I CHARTED MY COURSE RUTHLESSLY! BUT MY PLANS DIDN'T INCLUDE THE SHAME BROUGHT UPON ME BY ROD BAILEY--- AND THEY DIDN'T INCLUDE FALLING DESPERATELY IN LOVE!

I HAD BEEN WORKING AT VINCE CANTRELL'S FABULOUS "CLUB LIDO" AS A SHOW-GIRL FOR SEVERAL MONTHS WHEN...

NOW HERE'S A SWITCH! MY LOVELIEST SHOW-GIRL OGLING A CUSTOMER!

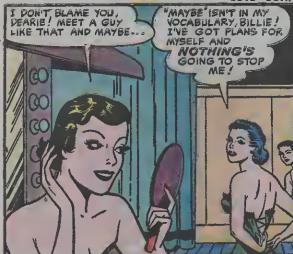
VINCE--- WHO IS THAT MAN?



YOU'VE GOT GOOD TASTE, HONEY! THAT'S PHIL TYLER, ONE OF THE TOP EXECUTIVES IN TOWN! HE BRINGS CLIENTS IN HERE TWO THREE TIMES A WEEK! A BACHELOR, TOO!

MMM! MIGHT WHEEDLE YOU INTO INTRODUCING US SOME DAY, DARLING!





I DON'T BLAME YOU, DEARIE! MEET A GUY LIKE THAT AND MAYBE...

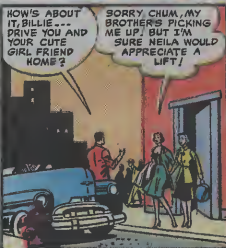
"MAYBE" ISN'T IN MY VOCABULARY, BILLIE! I'VE GOT PLANS FOR MYSELF AND NOTHING'S GOING TO STOP ME!



YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WITH PLANS, NEILA! ROD BAILEY'S BEEN ASKING ME TO INTRODUCE HIM TO YOU FOR AGES!

YOU DON'T MEAN THAT CRUDE, FLASHY HOODLUM THAT HANGS AROUND THE BAR? UGH!

COARSE, SWAGGERING ROD BAILEY SEEMED HARDLY THE MAN TO OFFER ME THE KIND OF LIFE I WANTED! BUT WHEN I SAW HIS EXPENSIVE CAR PARKED AT THE BACK-STAGE EXIT AFTER THE SHOW, I BEGAN TO WONDER! EVIDENTLY ROD HAD MONEY... AND MONEY WAS INCLUDED IN MY PLANS!



HOW'S ABOUT IT, BILLIE... DRIVE YOU AND YOUR CUTE GIRL FRIEND HOME?

SORRY CHUM, MY BROTHER'S PICKING ME UP, BUT I'M SURE NEILA WOULD APPRECIATE A LIFT!

There WAS SOMETHING HYPNOTIC ABOUT ROD! HALF IN FEAR, HALF IN FASCINATION I ACCEPTED HIS OFFER!



NIFTY LOOKER, THAT BILLIE... BUT UPSTAIRS, NOTHING HAPPENS! YOU'RE DIFFERENT, KID! YOU ACT LIKE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU WANT!

SURE... MONEY... SECURITY... I'VE GOT BIG PLANS FOR LITTLE NEILA STEVENS!



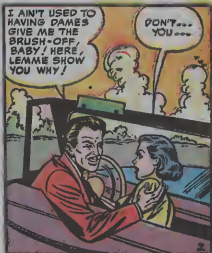
YEAH? NOW THAT'S FUNNY, SUGAR, BECAUSE I HAD A FEW PLANS FOR YOU MYSELF!

BUT... YOU JUST MET ME!



OH, I DUNNO! I AIN'T BEEN WATCHING YOU GO THROUGH YOUR PACES EVERY NIGHT JUST FOR KICKS! I GOT IT FIGURED WE'D MAKE A GREAT TEAM!

TH-THAT'S RIDICULOUS!



I AIN'T USED TO HAVING DAMES GIVE ME THE BRUSH-OFF, BABY! HERE, LET ME SHOW YOU WHY!

DON'T... YOU...

LOVE CONFESSIONS

THAT KISS WASN'T IN MY PLANS!



OH, ROD'S LIPS
PRESSED AGAINST
MINE IN AN
ALMOST
SAVAGE,
POSSESSIVE
KISS, MY
DESIGNS FOR
SUCCESS WERE
SWIFT AWAY
BY AN
AVALANCHE OF
UNCONTROLLABLE
EMOTIONS!
WITH ALL HIS
FAULTS, ROD
BAILEY WAS
DYNAMITE!
I SAW HIM
EVERY
NIGHT
AFTER THAT!

SLOW DOWN, NEILA!
PHIL TYLER IS OUT
FRONT----AND GET
THIS! NOW HE'S
ASKING FOR AN
INTRODUCTION!

SORRY, VINCE! I...
I HAVE A HEAVY
DATE!



HONEY, HADN'T
YOU BETTER
FIND OUT MORE
ABOUT THAT
BAILEY GUY---
LIKE WHERE HIS
MONEY COMES
FROM AND---

LOOK, VINCE...
I'M NOT A
CHILD! I MAY
WORK FOR YOU, BUT
DON'T TRY
TO RUN MY
PRIVATE
LIFE!

I
WAS
FURIOUS,
BUT
VINCE'S
WORDS
HAUNTED
ME!
LATER,
IN MY
APART-
MENT---



ROD THAT FUR SCARF
YOU GAVE ME THE
WATCH AND THE
SAPPHIRE BROOCH---

I'M WAY AHEAD! YOU, BABY!
YOU WANNA KNOW WHERE THE
FOLDING GREEN CAME FROM.
HUH?



LET'S JUST SAY I GOT A
RICH UNCLE ---WILL YA BUY
THAT? AND WHILE WE'RE
TALKING ABOUT PRESENTS---



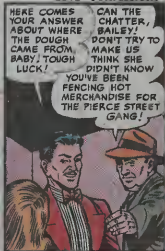
HERE IS A LITTLE
SOMETHING TO KEEP
YOUR WRIST WARM!
THAT OUGHTA RATE
A COUPLE KISSES---

OH, ROD! IT'S
BEAUTIFUL! BUT
IT MUST HAVE
COST A FORTUNE!
HOW---

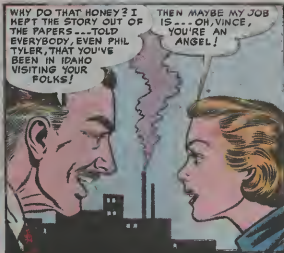
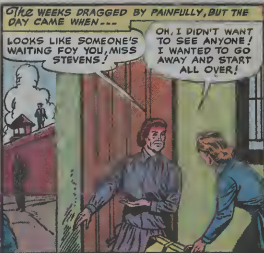
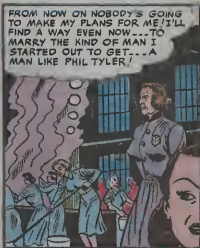


BUT MY
QUESTION
WAS
STOPPED
AS ONCE
AGAIN I
FELT THE
EXHILARATION
OF ROD'S
ARMS AROUND
ME---THE
RECKLESS
ABANDON HIS
EXPERIENCED
KISSES
INSPIRED IN
ME! BUT IT
WAS ONLY
A MOMENTARY
THRILL!
FOR
SECONDS
LATER---

LOVE CONFESSIONS



AND ROD DID TRY TO CONVINCE THE JUDGE THAT I WAS INNOCENT! BUT THE BRACELET ON MY WRIST... THE STOLEN GIFTS IN MY APARTMENT... WERE LIKE AN ACCUSING FINGER! ROD FLASHED HIS COCKY SMILE AS HE DREW A YEAR'S SENTENCE AS I LEARNED THAT I WOULD SPEND THE NEXT TWO MONTHS IN THE WOMAN'S REFORMATORY!



LOVE CONFESSIONS

"THE NEXT EVENING..."

THERE, I'VE BEEN PROMISING TO ARRANGE A DATE FOR MONTHS, PHIL... NOW IT'S UP TO YOU!

I'LL BET YOU SAID "YES" JUST TO GET RID OF ME, NEILA!



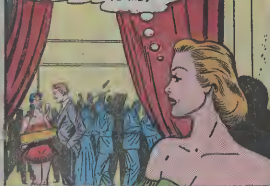
IF PHIL TYLER HAD KNOWN ABOUT MY "ROMANCE" WITH ROD... OR EVEN SUSPECTED WHERE I HAD SPENT THE LAST TWO MONTHS, HE WOULDN'T HAVE WANTED THAT DATE! SUCCESSFUL, A MEMBER OF ONE OF THE CITY'S MOST DISTINGUISHED FAMILIES, HE FITTED INTO MY PLANS PERFECTLY!

I'M HOLDING YOU TOO CLOSE, NEILA, BUT I CAN'T HELP IT!

MAYBE I... WANT YOU TO HOLD ME CLOSE, PHIL!



PHIL IS WONDERFUL, BUT LOVE ISN'T IMPORTANT IN MY PLANS! I CAN'T GET TANGLED UP IN EMOTIONS! I'VE GOT TO CONCENTRATE ON GETTING HIM TO PROPOSE TO ME!



AND MY SCHEMING WAS ALMOST FOOL-PROOF FOR SOON...

NEILA, I DON'T EVER WANT TO SHARE YOU WITH ANYONE! I WANT YOU FOR KEEPS, DARLING... AS MY WIFE!

OH, PHIL... DEAREST!



YES, MY PLANS HAD MATERIALIZED! BUT THOUGH I HAD CONVINCED MYSELF THAT I DIDN'T LOVE PHIL... AND MY CONSCIENCE BURNED... I FELT TRIUMPHANT! AND THEN AT THE SWANK PARTY PHIL'S PARENTS GAVE IN OUR HONOR!

I KNEW EVERYONE WOULD ADORE YOU, NEILA! THEY... DARLING, WHAT IS IT? YOU AREN'T ILL?

N-NO... IT'S... THE EXCITEMENT, I GUESS! IF YOU COULD RUN IN FOR SOME WATER, I...



I HAD TO GET RID OF PHIL... FOR MY EYES HAD NOT DECEIVED ME! LURKING IN THE SHADOWS... I HAD SEEN A FAMILIAR, TERRIFYING FIGURE!

ROD BAILEY! OH, WHAT CAN HE WANT... WHY?



LOVE CONFESSIONS

And AS I WONDERED WHAT TO DO...

SURPRISED, BABY? LOOKS LIKE YOU FORGOT THOSE KISSES... FORGOT THAT A SMART MOUTHPIECE CAN SPRING A GUY BEFORE HIS TIME IS UP!

ROD, PLEASE GO! I... I'M GOING TO BE MARRIED!



TO A GUY YOU DON'T LOVE! MAYBE HE'D LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT THOSE PLANS YOU TOLD ME ABOUT! MAYBE HE'D LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT US AND THE TIME YOU SPENT BEHIND BARS!

HE... HE WOULDN'T BELIEVE YOU...



THE JUDGE DIDN'T BELIEVE YOU, BABY! MAYBE YOUR CLASSY BOY FRIEND WON'T, EITHER! LISTEN, SISTER, MY PLANS AIN'T CHANGED! I'LL PICK YOU UP AT YOUR PLACE T'NIGHT...

BUT I CAN'T... I... I DO LOVE PHIL!



I'LL BE WAITIN' FOR YOU, BABY, AND YOU BETTER BE READY TO TRAVEL... OR ELSE!

I CAN'T HURT PHIL BUT NO MATTER WHAT I DO NOW, HE'LL...



AND THEN, IN A FLASH, MY SOLUTION WAS BEFORE ME! I'D WON PHIL'S LOVE UNDER FALSE PRETENSES, BUT I DID LOVE HIM! IN MY STUPID MUDDLED FASHION, I HAD ALWAYS LOVED HIM! AND NOW, NO MATTER WHAT THE PRICE, I HAD TO BE HONEST WITH HIM!

PHIL, DARLING, LISTEN TO ME! I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH!

IT'S A LITTLE LATE, DEAR! I'M AFRAID I DID A LITTLE EAVES-DROPPING!



YOU... YOU HEARD?

I HEARD YOU TELL HIM YOU LOVE ME, NEILA! I DIDN'T STOP HIM BECAUSE I WANTED YOU TO MAKE YOUR OWN DECISION! YOU SEE... I GOT THE TRUTH OUT OF VINCE LONG AGO!



AND YOU DIDN'T CARE? OH, DARLING... DARLING!

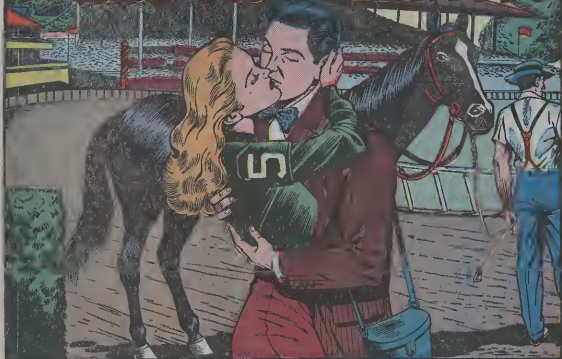
I WANTED SO DESPERATELY TO HEAR THE TRUTH FROM YOU, DEAR! AND NOW THERE WON'T BE ANY SECRETS BETWEEN US... EVER!



I NEVER SAW ROD BAILEY AGAIN... PHIL SAW TO THAT! AND WITH EVERY TENDER EMBRACE, PHIL TAUGHT ME THAT EVEN THE MOST CAREFUL PLANS CAN BE MEANINGLESS... IF THEY DON'T INCLUDE LOVE!

IN THE GLITTERING FASCINATION OF THE RACE-TRACK WORLD, WAS IT A LOVE FILLED WITH PASSION AND FIRE... OR A LOVE BASED IN TRICKERY AND DECEIT... WHICH BROUGHT BEAUTIFUL JILL ANDERSON TO THE BRINK OF HEARTBREAK? JILL HERSELF ONLY DISCOVERED THE REAL ANSWER WHEN SHE COULD PROUDLY SAY...

I Rode The Winner!



MY LIFE ON A LONELY FARM WAS NOT A HAPPY ONE! I WAS AN ORPHAN WHEN UNCLE JOHN TOOK ME INTO HIS HOME! BUT THE ONLY CREATURE WHO HAD EVER SHOWN ME ANY LOVE OR AFFECTION WAS MARCO, THE BEAUTIFUL STALLION I HAD RAISED FROM A COLT! THEN---



LOOK AT HIM RUN, UNCLE JOHN! ISN'T HE A BEAUTY?

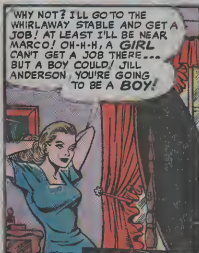
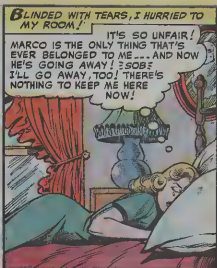
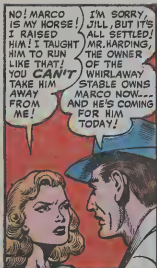
YES, MARCO IS A FINE HORSE, JILL! TOO FINE FOR US TOO KEEP HERE!



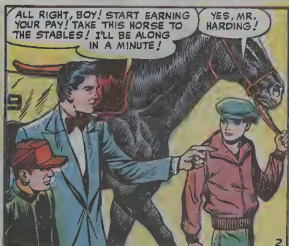
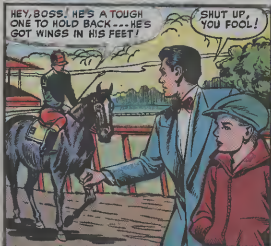
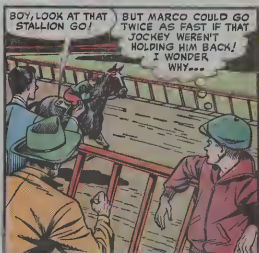
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

MARCO IS A NATURAL-BORN RACE-HORSE, JILL! HE'S WORTH A MINT OF MONEY... AND THE FARM NEEDS MONEY! I...I'VE SOLD HIM!





A CAP TO HIDE MY HAIR AND SOME OLD CLOTHES DID THE TRICK! BY THE NEXT AFTERNOON, I WAS AT THE TRACK! THE RACING SEASON WAS JUST STARTING, AND IT WAS EASY TO GET A JOB AS ONE OF MR. BRENT HARDING'S STABLE-BOYS! THE FIRST THING I DID WAS TO FIND MARCO!



LOVE CONFESSIONS

TROTTED MARCO BACK TO THE STABLES AND GAVE HIM A RUB-DOWN, BUT MY DISGUISE DIDN'T FOOL HIM!

YOU DIDN'T THINK I'D LET UNCLE JOHN KEEP US APART, DID YOU, MARCO? DID YOU MISS ME?



HEY, CUT IT OUT, BOY! GIVE ME MY HAT! WE DON'T WANT MR. HARDING TO FIND OUT HIS NEW STABLE-BOY IS A GIRL, MARCO!



SUDDENLY!

WELL, WHAT A PLEASANT SURPRISE! AND SUCH A BEAUTIFUL ONE! MY DEAR, SUCH LOVELINESS SHOULDN'T BE HIDDEN IN THE STABLES!

MR. HARDING! OH... PLEASE... I... I'M JILL ANDERSON! MARCO WAS MY HORSE AND I MISSED HIM SO TERRIBLY! I WAS AFRAID YOU WOULDN'T GIVE A GIRL A JOB SO I...



BUT A GIRL LIKE YOU DOESN'T NEED A JOB IN THE STABLES... NOT WHEN BRENT HARDING IS AROUND! COME HERE!

I NEVER REALIZED BEFORE HOW HANDSOME AND VIBRANT HE IS! BUT HE MAKES ME FEEL WEAK AND STRANGE!



SUDDENLY BRENT HARDING SAVAGELY PULLED ME TO HIM! AS HIS LIPS MET MINE, I KNEW THAT THIS MAN TOOK WHAT HE WANTED... AND THAT HE WANTED ME! AND MY ACHING HUNGER FOR LOVE MADE ME OPEN MY HEART!



I'M AN EXPERT AT JUDGING HORSES... AND WOMEN! YOU'RE FOR ME, HONEY! FROM NOW ON, YOU'RE BRENT HARDING'S GIRL!

YES, BRENT! YES!



AND BEING "BRENT HARDING'S GIRL" WAS THE MOST THRILLING THING THAT HAD EVER HAPPENED TO ME! WE WENT EVERYWHERE TOGETHER... AND THE EXCITEMENT OF THE RACE-TRACK LIFE ONLY REFLECTED THE EXCITEMENT I FELT WITH BRENT!

THIS IS WONDERFUL, BRENT! I FEEL AS IF I'D NEVER LIVED BEFORE!

YOU HAVE TO REALLY KNOW HOW TO "LIVE" TO KEEP UP WITH BRENT HARDING!



OH, BRENT! YOU SHOULDN'T! YOU'RE MUCH TOO EXTRAVAGANT!

THIS IS NOTHING, BABY! WAIT UNTIL AFTER THE BIG RACE! WE'LL HAVE MONEY TO BURN... AND WE'LL BURN IT TOGETHER!



LOVE CONFESSIONS

LIKE SO MANY GIRLS WHOSE LIVES HAVE BEEN LONELY AND LOVELESS, MY NEWLY-FOUND LOVE AND DEVOTION GREW EACH DAY! I ADORED BRENT AND HE SEEMED TO ADORE ME! BUT FINALLY THE DAY OF THE BIG RACE ARRIVED AND WITH IT, A THREAT TO MY HAPPINESS! AN HOUR BEFORE THE RACE...

TODAY'S THE DAY, MARCO! AND YOU'RE GOING TO WIN! I JUST KNOW IT!

SAY, HARDING! LOOKS LIKE MARCO IS A REAL THREAT TODAY! THE FOLKS WHO'VE SEEN HIM RUN SAY HE'S SURE TO UPSET THE FAVORITE!

SOMETHING IN THE TONE OF BRENT'S VOICE CAUGHT MY ATTENTION! I KNEW HE DIDN'T LIKE JIM PEARSON, THE TRACK INVESTIGATOR FOR THE STATE RACING COMMISSION, BUT I'D NEVER KNOWN WHY!

YEAH, MAYBE HE WILL!

THAT WOULDN'T BE TOO GOOD FOR YOU, WOULD IT? THE ODDS ARE TOO SHORT FOR YOU TO MAKE A KILLING!

IF YOU'RE INFERRING THAT I MIGHT NOT WANT MARCO TO WIN, PEARSON, YOU'RE CRAZY! HE'S A GOOD HORSE! IF HE'S GOOD ENOUGH, HE'LL WIN!

I HOPE SO, HARDING! THE STATE RACING COMMISSION DOESN'T LIKE PHONY RACES!

EXCUSE ME! I'M BUSY! I'LL SEE YOU AT THE GRAND-STAND, JILL!

THAT WASN'T VERY FAIR OF YOU, MR. PEARSON! BRENT HARDING WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING DISHONEST!

I'VE HEARD WHY YOU CAME TO THE TRACKS AND HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT MARCO, MISS ANDERSON! I KNOW I'M STEPPING OUT OF LINE, BUT STAY AWAY FROM HARDING! HE'S NOT YOUR KIND!

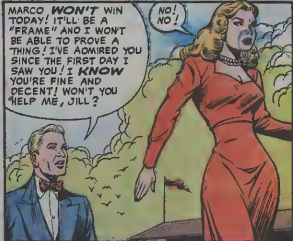
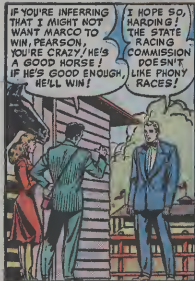
I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

I KNOW THAT HARDING RUNS CROOKED RACES... BUT I HAVE NO EVIDENCE! NO ONE WILL TALK! THEY'RE ALL AFRAID OF HARDING!

NO! I DON'T BELIEVE IT! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

MARCO **WON'T** WIN TODAY! IT'LL BE A "FRAME" AND I WON'T BE ABLE TO PROVE A THING! I'VE ADMIRED YOU SINCE THE FIRST DAY I SAW YOU! I **KNOW** YOU'RE FINE AND DECENT! WON'T YOU HELP ME, JILL?

NO! NO!



LOVE CONFESSIONS

CONFUSED AND FRIGHTENED,
I HURRIED AWAY FROM
JIM PEARSON!

I CAN'T BELIEVE BRENT
WOULD DO SUCH A THING!
YET I REMEMBER THAT
VERY FIRST DAY WHEN
CARL, THE JOCKEY, WAS
HOLDING MARCO BACK!
BRENT SAID---OH, IT
CAN'T BE TRUE! I---
I'M GOING TO TALK TO
CARL!



CARL WAS IN HIS DRESSING ROOM
GETTING READY FOR THE RACE! I
DECIDED TO TEST HIM WITH A
LITTLE TRICK!

I---I WANT TO WISH
YOU LUCK, CARL! I'M
BETTING EVERYTHING
I OWN ON MARCO!
I'LL BE RUINED IF HE
DOESN'T WIN!

DON'T DO
THAT, MISS
ANDERSON!



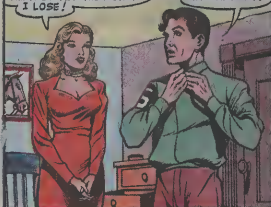
WHY? ISN'T MARCO
GOING TO WIN
TODAY, CARL?

I DIDN'T SAY
THAT! BUT
TAKE MY
ADVICE! **DO
NOT BET!**



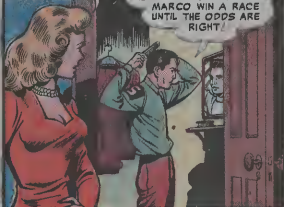
OH, THAT'S SILLY, CARL!
IF I DON'T BET ON MARCO,
THINK OF ALL THE MONEY
I LOSE!

YOU'LL LOSE IT IF
YOU **DO** BET ON
HIM ANYWAY!



WHY ISN'T HE GOING
TO WIN, CARL?

BECAUSE HARDING DOESN'T
WANT HIM TO! THE BOSS
ISN'T GOING TO LET
MARCO WIN A RACE
UNTIL THE ODDS ARE
RIGHT!



BUT IT ISN'T HONEST!
YOU **KNOW** IT ISN'T,
CARL! RIDE MARCO
TO **WIN**,
PLEASE!

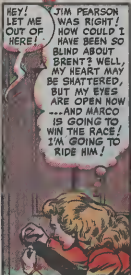
MY LIFE ISN'T WORTH
A DIME IF MARCO
WINS! I'M RIDING
HIM---TO
LOSE!



WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT!
SORRY, CARL, BUT THIS IS
ONE RACE YOU'LL HAVE TO
MISS!

HEY!





HEY! LET ME OUT OF HERE!

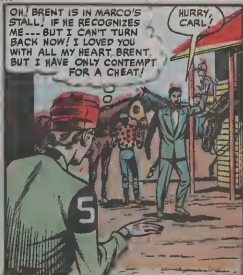
JIM PEARSON WAS RIGHT! HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO BLIND ABOUT BRENT? WELL, MY HEART MAY BE SHATTERED, BUT MY EYES ARE OPEN NOW ---AND MARCO IS GOING TO WIN THE RACE! I'M GOING TO RIDE HIM!



I FOUND AN EXTRA SUIT OF CARL'S "SILKS" AND A FEW MINUTES LATER I WAS READY!

CARL WON'T BE HEARD BY ANYONE NOW! IF ONLY I CAN AVOID BRENT, I'M SURE NO ONE ELSE WILL RECOGNIZE ME!

MISS ANDERSON! PLEASE--- LET ME OUT!



OH! BRENT IS IN MARCO'S STALL, IF HE RECOGNIZES ME--- BUT I CAN'T TURN BACK NOW! I LOVED YOU WITH ALL MY HEART, BRENT, BUT I HAVE ONLY CONTEMPT FOR A CHEAT!

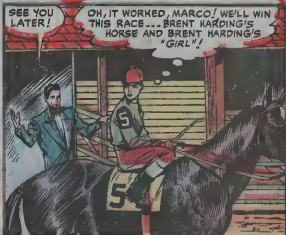
HURRY, CARL!



IT'S DARK IN HERE! MAYBE I'LL GET AWAY WITH IT IF I DON'T SAY ANYTHING!



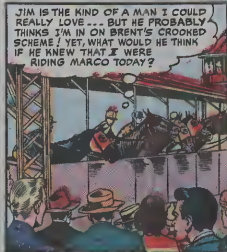
ALL RIGHT, CARL! REMEMBER--- MARCO IS **NOT** TO WIN! HOLD HIM BACK, BUT BE CAREFUL! JIM PEARSON WILL HAVE HIS EYE ON YOU!



SEE YOU LATER!

OH, IT WORKED, MARCO! WE'LL WIN THIS RACE--- BRENT HARDING'S HORSE AND BRENT HARDING'S "GIRL"!

WE WERE SOON THROUGH THE PADDOCK AND TOOK OUR PLACE IN THE STARTING LINE! I KEPT MY HEAD DOWN BUT MY EYES SEARCHED THE CROWD! THEN I SAW JIM PEARSON STARING CURIOUSLY AT ME!



JIM IS THE KIND OF A MAN I COULD REALLY LOVE --- BUT HE PROBABLY THINKS I'M IN ON BRENT'S CROOKED SCHEME! YET, WHAT WOULD HE THINK IF HE KNEW THAT I WERE RIDING MARCO TODAY?



BANG!

SOMEONE CALLED MY NAME! WAS IT JIM... OR BRENT? OH, JIM, WISH ME LUCK!

JILL!

THEY'RE OFF!



I WAS SO ELATED THAT I ALMOST FORGOT WHY I WAS RIDING MARCO, BUT WHEN I RODE TOWARD THE JUDGE'S STAND, BRENT'S ANGRY FACE REMINDED ME WITH A SHOCK OF FEAR!



- ON THAT QUESTION, I PLAYED THE FAVORITE, AND THE ODDS WERE RIGHT FOR THE VERY NEXT WEEK I WAS MRS. JIM PEARSON! I NEVER SAW BRENT AGAIN! HIS CAREER AS A CROOK WAS FINISHED BY MY TESTIMONY... AND WITH JIM'S LOVE AND HELP, MY MEMORIES ARE ONLY GOOD ONES!

BLIND BARGAIN

JULIE APLEY'S fortune was her face! She was a beautiful girl with an olive complexion and perfect features! She looked at herself in the mirror as she put on make-up and got ready for Grant to pick her up for the Howland's house party!

"I must look my best tonight," she thought! "Grant always brags so much about my appearance and these are his family friends! I don't want him to be disappointed!"

She loved Grant Guthrie and was engaged to him! Their wedding date was set and she couldn't help thinking, as she powdered her pretty nose, what a lucky girl she was to have captured the most eligible bachelor in their social set and one who was also an heir to a huge steel fortune!

"But it's not his money," she said to herself, as she put the finishing touches of mascara and lipstick to her lovely face! "It's not that at all! I'd love Grant if he were poor because he is so fond of me!"

Julie was a model! But she planned to give up her profession as soon as she and Grant were married! They had agreed on a honeymoon in Bermuda and the rest of the winter in Miami! Grant had lots of friends there and he had told her that he was anxious to show off his beautiful bride!

But when they were returning from the Howland's house party, a horrible thing happened! Grant's convertible skidded on a slippery curve! It careened over the cliff! And the next thing that Julie knew, she was regaining consciousness in a hospital, looking up into the kind face of a nurse!

Grant had come out all right, the nurse told her, but she had some cuts on the face which had required surgery! Julie reached up and felt the gauze tape around her head! And her face was swathed in bandages!

"Will it b-be very b-bad?" she asked the doctor when he came to see her!

"I'm not sure, Julie," he had answered honestly! "You've had the best plastic surgeon available but only time will tell! Your face has to be bandaged for three weeks!"

She was sitting up in bed when Grant came, to see her! She was embarrassed about the bandages which made room for only her lips and her eyes and her nostrils to show! She expected him to kiss her but he didn't!

"You have nothing at all to worry about," he said! "My insurance company is taking care of all the expenses!"

"But about us?" she inquired! "Our wedding and the trip to Bermuda and—"

"You'll have to forget that for now!" he told her. "Wait till we see how things turn out! I'm going away for a month or so! I'll get in touch with you when I get back!"

"He's afraid," she said to herself, "just the way I am! He loves my looks more than he does me!"

During the next few days, Julie was in the depths of despair! Grant was gone! If her face turned out to be disfigured, her modelling career was gone too! But the kind nurse talked her into going for a walk through the hospital halls and it was there that she met Al Palmer! Al's leg was broken and some shoulder ligaments torn but he had a big grin on his face and he had lots of courage!

"Sit down and talk," he said! "People who are laid up for a while, like us, should get acquainted!"

Al was in a wheelchair but she walked out to meet him every afternoon after that! He was good company and they talked a lot and learned more about each other than people usually do! They played cards and battled over other games and always with a gay spirit!

"You've done a lot for me," he told her one day! "And besides that, Julie, I've fallen in love with you!"

"You couldn't have!" she said as she leaned over his wheelchair to embrace him! "You don't even know what I look like!"

"I don't care about that," he answered as he pulled her head down and kissed her! "I know what's underneath! Beauty is only skin deep!"

That night, she lay awake thinking for a long time! Al loved her for herself alone and not for her outward beauty! But there could be beauty that was beneath seeing—sympathy and understanding and the capacity for kindness! Al knew that!

A few days later, Julie's bandages were removed and she looked at herself in the mirror! Grant's reflection was in it as he walked into her room!

"Julie," he said, "you haven't changed a bit!"

"My face hasn't," she replied with a smile, "but I'm afraid I have! Al and I were married here in the hospital last night! He insisted upon doing it before the bandages were removed!"

She stood up and turned to Grant! "He made a blind bargain," she said, "which is more than you were willing to do! And he won't!"

Driven relentlessly on by an urge I couldn't explain, I found myself giving up everything I had been taught to believe in to attain the career I craved! How was I to know my future was bound to the distant past

Stage Door

ALL I KNOW IS I OWE YOU EVERYTHING... AND I'D DO ANYTHING I COULD TO MAKE YOU HAPPY!

I CAN'T OFFER YOU MARRIAGE, BABS! DO YOU LOVE ME ENOUGH TO BE CONTENT WITH ANYTHING LESS?



Until I was twelve, I had no inkling that there was anything strange and different about my life with Aunt Hetty!

BABS, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING! OH, AUNT SURE, YOU'RE GOING! YOU'LL NEVER WHAT ARE YOU GUESS! I GOT SO EXCITED ABOUT THE LEADING PART IN THE SCHOOL PAGEANT!



I'M GOING TO SING AND DANCE! AND DO YOU KNOW WHAT MRS. MONT TOLD ME? SHE SAID SHE'S SURE I'LL BE A REAL ACTRESS SOME DAY! ISN'T THAT MARVELOUS?

FRANKLY, BABS, I CAN'T AGREE WITH YOU! THE LIFE OF AN ACTRESS ISN'T ALL GLAMOUR AND EXCITEMENT! BELIEVE ME, I KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!



WELL, EVEN IF YOU DON'T WANT ME TO BE AN ACTRESS WHEN I GROW UP, I CAN STILL ACT IN THE PAGEANT, CAN'T I? ALL THE OTHER KIDS ARE GOING TO BE IN IT?

I'M SORRY, BABS, BUT I CAN'T PERMIT IT! NOW, LET'S SAY NO MORE ABOUT IT! I'LL PHONE MRS. MONT AT ONCE AND TELL HER TO SELECT SOMEONE ELSE FOR THE PART!



I was crushingly disappointed, as only a child can be! And in that moment my vague desires to become an actress took firm root in my mind!

LOVE CONFESSIONS

If instead of smothering me with restrictions, Aunt Hetty had allowed me to be a normal teen-age girl, my ambition might have fallen by the wayside! As it was, I carefully and secretly nurtured it through the years, until it became the biggest thing in my life---almost an obsession!

BUT AUNT HETTY, WHAT POSSIBLE HARM CAN THERE BE IN SEEING A PLAY LIKE "HAMLET"? WE'VE BEEN STUDYING IT IN ENGLISH ALL TERM! AND THE WHOLE SENIOR CLASS IS GOING!

WE'VE BEEN OVER THIS A DOZEN TIMES, BABS! YOU KNOW MY FEELINGS ABOUT THE MATTER AND WHILE YOU'RE UNDER MY GUARDIANSHIP AND LIVING UNDER MY ROOF, YOU WILL DO AS I SAY!

IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO ME! NO DANCING! NO MOVIES! YOU NEVER LET ME GO ANYWHERE! WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF, ANYWAY?

BABETTE BAKER! HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO ME THIS WAY! I SURELY GET FOR GIVING UP EVERYTHING TO BRING YOU UP PROPERLY? GO TO YOUR ROOM AT ONCE!

AUNT HETTY IS STILL LIVING BACK IN THE DARK AGES! SHE THINKS ANYTHING CONNECTED WITH THE THEATRE IS SINFUL! I WISH I COULD LEAVE THIS HOUSE AND NEVER COME BACK!

Once the idea struck me, I couldn't get it out of my mind! I thought about it for hours, hesitating one way, then another!

I slipped out of the house and took a bus to New York before my Aunt woke up next morning! But the grand and glorious feeling of daring and freedom began to wear thin after a solid week of disappointments!

I'LL GO AWAY! I HAVE ALMOST A HUNDRED DOLLARS OF MY OWN! THAT WILL SURELY BE ENOUGH TO KEEP ME UNTIL I GET A JOB ON BROADWAY!

BUT HOW AM I EVER TO GET THE EXPERIENCE YOU WANT, IF NO ONE WILL GIVE ME A CHANCE?

LOOK HONEY, I'VE GOT MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO THAN TEACH EVERY GOOD-LOOKING BABE WHO COMES ALONG---NOT THAT I WOULDN'T ENJOY IT!

SORRY, GIRLIE, THE BOSS AIN'T INTERVIEWING ANY MORE HOOFERS TODAY! WHY DON'T YOU GET YOURSELF A GOOD AGENT AND LET HIM DO THE WORRYING?

THANKS FOR THE TIP, MISTER! I'LL TRY THAT!



YOU MIGHT AS WELL WISE UP, SISTER! AN AGENT CAN'T WASTE HIS VALUABLE TIME WITH AMATEURS! WHEN YOU'VE MADE A NAME FOR YOURSELF, WE'LL ALL COME TO YOU!

WHAT A CRAZY MERRY-GO-ROUND THIS BUSINESS SEEMS TO BE! I'M AT MY WIT'S END ABOUT WHAT TO DO NEXT!

WHY DON'T YOU TRY TO GET YOURSELF A JOB IN A HOTEL WHERE ALL THE CELEBRITIES HANG OUT...LIKE THE HALLDORF TOWERS ON PARK AVENUE? THAT WAY YOU'LL EAT REGULAR AND WHO KNOWS YOU MIGHT GET A BREAK FROM SOME BIG SHOT!

I'VE TRIED EVERYTHING ELSE, SO WHAT CAN I LOSE? I'LL APPLY AT THE HALLDORF HOTEL RIGHT AWAY!



LOVE CONFESSIONS



This was the chance that I had been waiting for! What a break to get the very first day on the job! I plunged into my little speech!



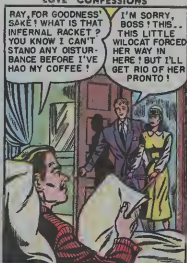
My chance came sooner than I expected! Next morning...



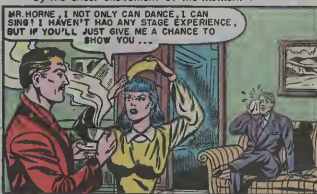
It had never occurred to me that I might not be able to see him! For a moment I didn't know what to do! Then I decided to take fate in my own hands!



LOVE CONFESSIONS



I was so furious with that conceited, young nincompoop that I had forgotten my nervousness! Suddenly I was drawn back to reality and the fact that I was actually facing the great Jeffrey Horne! But I was carried along by the sheer excitement of the moment!



Ray followed us with a dazed expression! I shot him a look of triumph! At that moment I think I was as much excited by my victory over him as by the success of my daring trick!



LOVE CONFESSIONS

I...I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU, MR. HORNE! I PROMISE YOU'LL NEVER REGRET GIVING ME THIS CHANCE!

I'M SURE I WON'T, CHILO! I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW AFTERNOON AT MY THEATRE! AND DON'T FORGET YOUR REHEARSAL CLOTHES! YOU'RE GOING TO DO SOME HARD WORK!



WELL, MR. SMART ALECK, I TRUST YOU'RE SATISFIED NOW?

THE NAME IS JORDAN! RAY JORDAN! I'LL ADMIT YOU'VE WON YOUR POINT, BUT DON'T LET A GUY LIKE JEFF HORNE FOOL YOU! YOU'VE HEARD OF THE WOLF OF WALL STREET? WELL, HE'S THE WOLF OF BROADWAY!



I wasn't going to let anything Ray Jordan said spoil my happiness! Jeffrey Horne liked me and was going to give me a chance! The rest was up to me!

HE SAID I HAD TALENT BUT NEEDED MORE TUTORING! HE WOULDN'T HAVE TOLD ME TO QUIT MY JOB IF HE DIDN'T THINK I HAD SOMETHING!



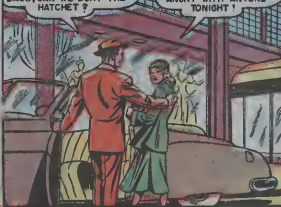
WELL, IF IT ISN'T MR. JORDAN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING DOWN AT THE SERVANTS' ENTRANCE? LOOKING FOR PUBLICITY?

ALL RIGHT...I KNOW WHEN I'M LICKED! I WANT US TO BE FRIENDS! WON'T YOU TAKE THESE AS A PEACE OFFERING?



I KNOW A CUTE LITTLE PLACE OFF THE BEATEN PATH WHERE WE CAN HAVE DINNER AND DANCE! WHAT DO YOU SAY, BABES, CAN WE BURY THE HATCHET?

WE'LL NOT ONLY BURY THE HATCHET, WE'LL SMOKE THE PIPE OF PEACE! I COULDN'T BE ANGRY WITH ANYONE TONIGHT!



I STILL FEEL ALL STARRY-EYED AT MY GOOD LUCK! MR. HORNE SAID THAT IF I TURNED OUT AS WELL AS HE THINKS I WILL, HE'LL GIVE ME A PART IN HIS NEW PLAY!

LISTEN, HONEY, I DON'T LIKE TO SOUND LIKE A BROKEN RECORD, BUT I'VE KNOWN THAT GUY LONGER THAN YOU HAVE! I'VE NEVER KNOWN JEFF HORNE TO DO ANYTHING FOR NOTHING, AND WHY SHOULD HE START WITH A BEAUTIFUL DAME LIKE YOU?



BUT WHY SPEND THE WHOLE EVENING TALKING ABOUT ANOTHER MAN WHEN I'M FOOTING THE BILL? LET'S TALK ABOUT US! DO YOU KNOW YOU'VE GOT ME REELING, HONEY?



Ray had me reeling, too! More than I dared admit, even to myself! As our bodies moved instinctively together to the magic rhythm of the music, I felt as if I never wanted to leave the circle of his arms... as if I belonged there! But I couldn't let my feelings rule my heart... not just yet!

LOVE CONFESSIONS

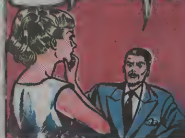
OKAY, BABS! THAT WAS A LITTLE BETTER! NOW LET'S GO OVER IT AGAIN!



This had been going on for days! Hours and hours and hours on end... the same routine over and over again! I felt as if I'd collapse with weariness! I couldn't take another step!

I'M SORRY! DID IT WRONG AGAIN! I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU BOTHER WITH ME!

FRANKLY, MY DEAR, I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER THE SAME THING!



It had come! He was through with me! And I felt just too tired to care!

I DON'T BLAME YOU IF YOU'RE DISGUSTED WITH ME! YOU'VE BEEN MORE THAN PATIENT! I GUESS I JUST HAVEN'T GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO MAKE GOOD!



IT'S ALL MY FAULT, DEAR! I GUESS I'VE BEEN TOO HARD WITH YOU! I'M NEVER SATISFIED WITH ANYTHING LESS THAN PERFECTION! BUT DON'T BE DISCOURAGED! I'VE GOT BIG PLANS FOR YOU!



PLEASE FORGIVE ME, MR. HORNE! I WON'T BLOW UP AGAIN! I'LL FIND A WAY TO REPAY YOU! I SWEAR IT!

I'M SURE YOU WILL, HONEY... WHEN THE RIGHT TIME COMES! NOW JUMP INTO YOUR CLOTHES AND WE'LL GO FOR A LITTLE RIDE! AND DON'T BE SO FORMAL! I WON'T BITE YOU IF YOU CALL ME JEFF!



The ride in the country was soothing! I stole a look at Jeff! Off guard, his face looked alder, tired! But his attraction couldn't be denied! I felt myself drawn to him, my heart pounding as I tried to understand his pull on my emotions!

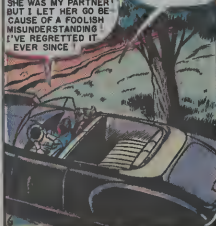
DON'T THINK I'M NOT GRATEFUL, JEFF... BUT WHY ARE YOU DOING ALL THIS FOR ME?

I'M NOT SURE I KNOW MYSELF, EXACTLY! PERHAPS IT'S BECAUSE YOU REMIND ME OF SOMEONE I USED TO KNOW... A GIRL WHO MEANT A GREAT DEAL TO ME!

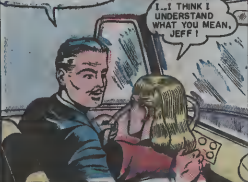


IT WAS BACK IN MY VAUDEVILLE DAYS! SHE WAS MY PARTNER! BUT I LET HER GO BECAUSE OF A FOOLISH MISUNDERSTANDING I'VE REGRETTED IT EVER SINCE!

THEN... YOU'VE NEVER MARRIED?



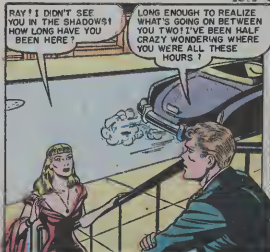
NO, AND I DON'T THINK I EVER WILL! THE WOMEN WHO HAVE COME INTO MY LIFE SINCE THEN HAVE HAD TO BE SATISFIED WITH LESS! AND IF THEY HAVEN'T...



I... I THINK I UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU MEAN, JEFF!

We drove home in silence, neither of us caring to talk! My heart was a whirling jumble of confusion! This, then, was what Ray had meant when he tried to warn me about Jeff!

LOVE CONFESSIONS



RAY! I DIDN'T SEE YOU IN THE SHADOWS! HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN HERE?

LONG ENOUGH TO REALIZE WHAT'S GOING ON BETWEEN YOU TWO! I'VE BEEN HALF CRAZY WONDERING WHERE YOU WERE ALL THESE HOURS?



WHAT'S GOT INTO YOU, RAY? COME INSIDE BEFORE YOU MAKE A SPECTACLE OF YOURSELF... AND ME!

I'M SORRY, DARLING! I GET SO INSANE WITH JEALOUSY SOMETIMES I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING!



BUT RAY, YOU HAVE TO LOVE SOMEONE BEFORE YOU CAN BE JEALOUS OF HER!

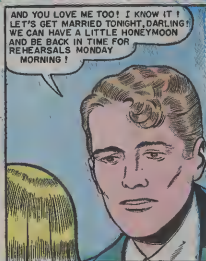
AND HOW DO YOU SUPPOSE I FEEL ABOUT YOU? ARE YOU BLIND, BABS? DON'T YOU KNOW I'M WILD ABOUT YOU?

If I had any doubts, they were dispelled by that kiss! So gentle and yet so filled to the brim with deep passion that I quivered with an ecstasy I only half understood!



NOW DO YOU BELIEVE I LOVE YOU?

YES, I... I BELIEVE YOU! OH, RAY DARLING!



AND YOU LOVE ME TOO! I KNOW IT! LET'S GET MARRIED TONIGHT, DARLING! WE CAN HAVE A LITTLE HONEYMOON AND BE BACK IN TIME FOR REHEARSALS MONDAY MORNING!

For a few seconds I was lost in the joy of the discovery of our love! Oh, I wanted to say yes! There could be no greater happiness for me than to spend the rest of my life in Roy's arms! But then, like the sound of doom, I could again hear Jeff's voice! He could do so much for my career! If I married Roy it would be all over!



I DO LOVE YOU, RAY! BUT I CAN'T MARRY YOU! NOT JUST YET, ANYWAY!

IT'S HORNE, ISN'T IT? HE'S ASKED FOR HIS PAYMENT, AND YOU'VE DECIDED TO TAKE THE EASY WAY TO SUCCESS!

THAT'S NOT TRUE! JEFF HAS ALWAYS BEEN A PERFECT GENTLEMAN! YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO SPEAK TO ME LIKE THAT!

I HAVE NO RIGHT TO SPEAK TO YOU AT ALL! JEFF HORNE DOESN'T LIKE ANYONE TO TAMPER WITH HIS PROPERTY! I SURE HAVE BEEN THE WORLD'S PRIZE OOPPE!

GASP! YOU'D BETTER GO NOW, RAY, BEFORE YOU SAY ANYTHING MORE! WE'LL BE CALMER IN THE MORNING!

I'LL FEEL THE SAME TOMORROW MORNING... AND THE REST OF MY LIFE! GOODBYE, BABBS!

LOVE CONFESSIONS

... AND EVEN THOUGH HE DOESN'T CARE HE'S ALL I HAVE AND I CAN SWEAR... HE'LL ALWAYS BE THE MAN OF MY DREAMS!



JUST LISTEN TO THAT APPLAUSE! YOU'RE A HIT, HONEY! THEY'RE EATING YOU UP!

I'M GLAD, JEFF, FOR YOUR SAKE! AT LEAST IT JUSTIFIES YOUR FAITH IN ME!



No part I'll ever be called upon to play could rival the sheer, dramatic intensity of what happened at that moment! Before my unbelieving eyes, a vivid drama of real life was being enacted!

WHY, AUNT...

HARRIETTE! OASP! NO, IT CAN'T BE!

I'VE COME BACK TO YOU, JEFF!



I CAN'T BELIEVE IT, DARLING! IS IT REALLY YOU? I SEARCHED EVERYWHERE FOR YOU, HARRIETTE, BUT YOU HAD DISAPPEARED! I FINALLY REALIZED YOU HAD BEEN RIGHT TO INSIST UPON CARING FOR YOUR SISTER'S ORPHANED CHILD! AND KNOCKING AROUND A CHEAP VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT WAS NOT THE BEST WAY TO BRING HER UP!

IT WASN'T THE WORST WAY, EITHER, JEFF! THE THEATRE WAS IN YOUR BLOOD, IT WAS YOUR VERY LIFE! I HAD NO RIGHT TO ASK YOU TO GIVE IT UP!



Unbelievably I listened! The woman whom Jeff Horne told me he had loved all these years, his former partner in the old vaudeville days... was my own Aunt Hetty! And I, unwittingly, of course, had been the reason they had parted!

I WAS A FOOL, JEFF, BUT I CHANGED! I'M YOURS IF YOU STILL WANT ME!

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED YOU, SWEETHEART! AND I WANT MY NEW NIECE TOO! I'LL NEVER LET EITHER OF YOU GO AGAIN!



BABS, DARLING, I WAS SO WRONG ABOUT YOU, TOO! I WAS TERRIFIED AT THE THOUGHT OF YOUR BECOMING AN ACTRESS AND POSSIBLY ONE DAY HAVING TO SUFFER AS I DID! CAN YOU FORGIVE ME?

OH, AUNT HETTY! I'VE BEEN AS MUCH TO BLAME AS YOU! I SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE UNDERSTANDING! I'VE MISSED YOU SO!



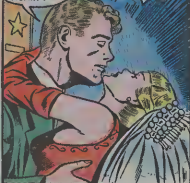
I was overjoyed at Aunt Hetty's newfound happiness, of course, but it only made my quarrel with Ray seem more hopeless! I knew now that he came before everything for me, even my ambition!



OH, RAY DARLING! IF YOU'D ONLY GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE...

BABS DARLING, IT'S NO USE! I CAN'T GIVE YOU UP! DO YOU THINK WE COULD START ALL OVER AGAIN?

DO I? JUST TRY ME! I THINK A GOOD PLACE TO START WOULD BE AT A WEDDING!



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